RULES and ORDERS

FOR THE

CHARITY-SCHOOLS

IN

CAMBRIDGE.

THE deſign of theſe Schools is in the firſt place to train up Poor Children in the Knowledge of God, and in the Chriſtian Religion: And, in the ſecond place, to Teach them to Read, Write, and to Caſt Account; that they may thereby be rendred more uſeful in their ſeveral Stations in the World.

I. In order to which the School-maſters and Miſtreſſes are conſtantly to attend their proper buſineſs in the Schools, during the Hours appointed for Teaching; namely, from Seven to Eleven in the Morning, and from One to Five in the Evening, the *Summer* half year: And from Eight to Eleven in the Morning, and from One to Four in the Evening, the *Winter* half year.

II. They are alſo to take care that all the Poor Children with them be ready once every Month [Namely, at One of the clock in the Afternoon the laſt *Thurſday* of every Month] to be Catechiz'd by the Stewards, at the place appointed by them. And in general, they are to follow the Directions of the Stewards in the whole Management of the Schools.

III. They are alſo to take particular care of the Manners and Behaviour of the Poor Children; and by all proper Methods to Diſcourage and Puniſh the beginnings of Vice; and particularly Lying, Swearing, Curſing, taking God's Name in Vain, and the Profanation of the Lord's Day; to which ſuch Children are too commonly addicted.

IV. They are alſo to ſet a good Example themſelves, by a conſtant and regular frequenting the Publick Worſhip and Sacraments; and to take care that the Children on all Opportunities be brought to the publick Prayers, and behave themſelves there with due Reverence: Eſpecially that they be at Church twice every Lord's Day, and upon every Holy-day. And that they be always ready to be publickly Catechiz'd by the Miniſters of every Pariſh at the times appointed for it.

V. They are alſo to uſe the Prayers, which the Miniſters and Lecturers have Collected and Appointed for them out of the Church Liturgy, Morning and Evening in the Schools: And to teach the Children the Church Catechiſm and thoſe private Prayers which the Miniſters and Lecturers have alſo Collected and Appointed for them out of the ſame Liturgy, to be uſed by them at home; with the appointed ſhort Graces before and after Meat. And that theſe Prayers and Graces may not be forgotten, they are to hear them repeated by the Children once every week; or as often as they ſee occaſion.

VI. They are alſo to call over the Names of the Children every Morning and Afternoon, to know whether they come conſtantly at School hours. And if any be miſſing, to mark their Names with a Note for *Tardy*, and another for *Abſent*, in ~~Monthly or Weekly~~ Bills, to be laid before the Miniſters and Lecturers at each Quarterly Meeting, in order to their Correction or Expulſion.

VII. They are alſo not to ſuffer the Children to break up above three times in the year, at the uſual Feſtivals; and ſo by no means, if poſſible, at *Sturbridge* Fair. But if that cannot wholly be avoided, they are not on any pretence to break up then for above a ſingle Week, for fear of any harm by the ill Examples, and opportunities of Corruption at that time.

VIII. They are not to admit any other Children into their Schools but ſuch as will be ſubject to the Rules thereto belonging; and in particular will be Catechiz'd by the Stewards with the reſt, at the Monthly returns above-mentioned.

IX. They are not to receive any Money of the Poor Childrens Parents at their Entry or Breaking up, or upon any other account whatſoever; but are to content themſelves with their own Salaries.

X. Laſtly, 'Tis expected that the Parents themſelves alſo take particular care to ſend their Children clean Wash'd and Comb'd to School, leſt they otherwiſe be offenſive there: That they do not make uſe of any frivolous Occaſions or Pretences for keeping them at home at the School hours: And that they give them good Examples, and keep them in good order when they are at home, leſt their Wickedneſs or Negligence ſhould as much or more corrupt the Children, as the care of the Schools can amend them.